

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PEKING 01116 240945Z

11

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 PM-03 DRC-01 SAJ-01 DODE-00

ACDA-10 /065 W

----- 043997

R 240715Z SEP73

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T PEKING 1116

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, NZ

SUBJECT: COMMENTS BY NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR ON INITIAL
CONVERSATIONS WITH PRC OFFICIALS

1. NEWLY-ARRIVED NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR W. BRYCE HARLAND, IN COMMENTING ON HIS INITIAL CONVERSATIONS WITH PRC OFFICIALS TO DC HOLDRIDGE, INDICATED THAT THERE WERE SOME TENSE MOMENTS IN THESE CONVERSATIONS BECAUSE HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO RAISE CERTAIN FAVORITE NZ ISSUES "AT HIGHEST LEVELS". ACCORDINGLY, IN MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, CHI P'ENG-FEI, FOREIGN MINISTRY AMERICAN AND OCEANEAN DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR LIN P'ING, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER HAN NIEN-LUNG AS WELL AS IN CREDENTIALS CEREMONY WITH ACTING CHIEF OF STATE TUNG PI-WU, HARLAND DISCUSSED POSITION OF NEW ZEALAND ON NUCLEAR TESTING, SITUATION IN INDO-CHINA AND CAMBODIA, AND PRC RELATIONS WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES. IN CONTRAST, HARLAND'S HOUR AND A HALF CONVERSATION WITH CHOU EN-LAI WAS FRIENDLY SMALL TALK AND ENTIRELY NON-SUBSTANTIVE, WITH CHOU (TO HARLAND'S RELIEF) NOT DISPOSED TO LECTURE HARLAND ON BASIS OF STAND LATTER HAD TAKEN ON CONTROVERSIAL MATTERS WITH OTHER OFFICIALS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 PEKING 01116 240945Z

2. HARLAND'S REMARKS TO TUNG PI-WU AND THE OTHERS ON NUCLEAR BESTING BROUGHT FORTH STANDARD CHINESE RESPONSE ON WEAPONS FOR DEFENSE ONLY AND NON-FIRST USE. (TUNG, INCIDENTALLY, APPEARED IN GOOD HEALTH AND THE MEETING CONTINUED FOR OVER AN HOUR.)

3. REGARDING CAMBODIA AND INDO-CHINA, HARLAND TOLD SOINE# THAT

BLAME FOR SITUATION DID NOT RESIDE SOLELY WITH ONE SIDE AND THAT IMPORTANT THING WAS TO GET BOTH SIDES TO END THE FIGHTING. HE TOLD HAN NIEN-LUNG THAT PRC'S SUPPORT FOR SIHANOUK WAS MAJOR OBSTACLE IN WAY OF IMPROVEMENT IN CHINA'S RELATIONS WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES SINCE THESE COUNTRIES EQUATED SUCH SUPPORT WITH EXTERNAL PRC BACKING OF INTERNAL SUBVERSION. THIS CAUSED HAN NIEN-LUNG TO SAY THAT HARLAND'S STATEMENT WAS "ABSURD" AND "UNJUSTIFIED". HAN THEN LAUNCHED INTO VIGOROUS DEFENSE OF CHINESE POLICIES IN SEA, NOTING INTER ALIA THAT PRC WANTED OVERSEAS CHINESE TO BECOME GOOD CITIZENS OF COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDED. DESPITE HAN'S STRONG REBUTTAL, TONE OF HARLAND'S MEETING WITH HIM REMAINED FRIENDLY.

4. DURING HARLAND'S MEETING WITH LIN P'ING, LIN ACCUSED US CIA OF ENGINEERING COUP D'ETAT IN CAMBODIA WHICH UNSEATED SIHANOUK, AND ALSO SPOKE OF "EXTERNAL FORCES" HAVING BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR COUPS IN CHILE AND AFGHANISTAN. HARLAND REPLIED TO EFFECT THAT IN HIS COUNTRY'S EXPERIENCE INTERNAL FORCES WERE FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN EXTERNAL FORCES IN GENERATING COUPS, AND AS FAR AS CAMBODIA WAS CONCERNED, THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO EVIDENCE TO LINK CIA WITH ELEMENTS WHO OVERTHREW SIHANOUK. LIN'S RESPONSE WAS MERELY THAT IN COUPS WHICH HE MENTIONED, EXTERNAL FORCES HAD GAINED MORE THAN INTERNAL ONES, LEADING HARLAND TO BELIEVE THAT LIN WAS IN FACT ADMITTING LACK OF OUTSIDE COMPLICITY AT LEAST AS FAR AS CAMBODIAN COUP WAS CONCERNED.

5. COMMENT: HARLAND WAS PLEASED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS ALLOWED HIM TO BRING UP SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF HIS ASSIGNMENT TO PEKING, AND HE HOPES IN SUBSEQUENT CONTACTS TO AVOID ANY ANODYNE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHINESE. OUR REACTION, BASED ON HARLAND'S VIGOROUS PERSONALITY IS THAT HE WILL SUCCEED. THE CHINESE EVIDENTLY

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 PEKING 01116 240945Z

HAD TAKEN HARLAND'S DIFFERING VIEWS ON PET PRC ISSUES IN REASONABLY GOOD HUMOR, AND IT APPEARS THAT HARLAND'S VOICE WILL BE A USEFUL ONE IN PRESENTING CHINESE WITH CONCEPTS WHICH ARE DIFFERENT FROM THEIR OWN.
BRUCE

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED, WILL SERVICE UPON REQUEST.

SECRET

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PEKING01116
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730961/aaaajzun.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980313
Subject: COMMENTS BY NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR ON INITIAL CONVERSATIONS WITH PRC OFFICIALS
TAGS: PFOR, CH, NZ, PFOR, (HARLAND, W BRYCE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005